

Opinion

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Bardo's says thanks

BARDO'S Op-Shop and all those who have benefited from your generosity thank you so much for another successful year. The support that we receive enables us to provide more equipment to Palliative Care and Caloundra Hospital. It also assists those patients who wish to stay in their own homes. Generous thanks also go to the amazing band of

"how Caloundra will look in years ahead" (Caloundra Weekly, November 20) one would have to say Mark McArdle is dreaming, like most politicians. Caloundra will never be the next Lygon St in Melbourne or Darling Harbour or the Rocks in Sydney. The reason being is the Caloundra culture is totally different – a retirement village and a holiday destination for families. If he took the time to look at



BETH MANGAN

Generous thanks also go to the amazing band of volunteers who continue to work and keep Bardo's operating.

volunteers who continue to work and keep Bardo's operating. Bardo's will close at 4pm on Tuesday, December 23, and reopen at 9am on Monday, January, 5.

Best wishes to everyone for the Christmas Season and we'll see you in the New Year.
BETH MANGAN
Bardo's Manager

Tell him he's dreaming

ON READING the article on

Caloundra he would note that Caloundra CBD is stagnant and will continue to suffer due to poor planning by the local council.

JANE
Moffat Beach

Water safety reminder

AS THE only Royal Life Saving Club on the Sunshine Coast, we were delighted to see the prominence that you gave to the RLSS promotion of keeping older people water

safe (Caloundra Weekly, December 4). Christmas time is a really great opportunity for kids and "older kids" to remind their elders about keeping "water safe".

We are all know that the Sunshine Coast attracts large numbers of older holiday makers and retirees, many of whom find the area an aquatic paradise, offering beautiful beaches, rivers, dams and lakes where they can enjoy a

Simon Ambrose
Tourism News



CONGRATULATIONS to the 10 Sunshine Coast businesses that were recognised at the recent Queensland Tourism Awards.

In particular, Caloundra's Rumba Resort took out a bronze award in the Deluxe Accommodation category.

It has been pleasing to end the year strongly with

Locals' state awards

recording an increase in international (9.4%) and domestic (10%) visitors to the year ending September 2014, compared with the same period in 2013.

The significant recovery in both categories was a major message during the Sunshine Coast Destination Ltd annual general meeting last week.

Other highlights from the 2013-14 year:

- Sunshine Coast Destination Ltd attracted the largest membership base of any regional

tourism organisation in Queensland;

- In partnership with Sunshine Coast Airport and Tourism and Events Queensland, SCDL secured direct Air New Zealand flights to provide a seasonal service for the next three years and a boost of \$132 million to the Sunshine Coast economy;

- Generated more than \$28 million of media exposure for the Sunshine Coast, an increase of 82% on 2012-13;

- A vibrant events

schedule supported by stay-and-play packaging via the Visit Sunshine Coast website had increased visitor numbers and length of stay significantly.

For those interested in finding out more, a copy of the annual report is available at: www.scdl.com.au.

I would like to wish everyone a safe festive period.

Simon Ambrose is CEO of Sunshine Coast Destination Ltd (SCDL).

wide variety of water sports. It is so sad to see so many "unknowns" in the drowning statistics prepared by the Royal Life Saving Society, meaning no one really knows the circumstances in which people lost their lives. It reflects the growing number of people who swim or undertake water activities alone, who may have medical conditions or who may have consumed alcohol with medications.

Ithaca Caloundra City Life Saving Club would be pleased to arrange free seminars for any local community group. Please contact us if you'd like to find out more. Many of your readers will know about our Grey Medallion course which is a Royal Life Saving Society accredited course specifically aimed at the 55+, teaching water-wise skills and emergency awareness. The Council of the Ageing

have recognised the importance of this two-day course as they have funded us to run it free for the past two years, benefiting dozens of locals. We wish everyone a safe and happy Christmas. Remember alcohol and water don't mix, always enjoy the water with others, or in between the flags, and wear life jackets.

PATRICIA BARRY
Ithaca Caloundra City Life Saving Club Hon Secretary

The New Weber Os are here!